UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

-against-

IVAN GUILLERMO ESPINOSA-GUTIERREZ,

Defendant.

ANALISA TORRES, District Judge:

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20 Cr. 111 (AT)

**ORDER** 

Sentencing in this matter is scheduled for May 20, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. ECF No. 15. Defendant is detained at the Metropolitan Correctional Center.

Under the terms of Section 15002(b)(2) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act"), Pub. L. No. 116-136 (2020), the Judicial Conference of the United States has found that emergency conditions due to the national emergency declared by the President of the United States with respect to COVID-19 have materially affected and will continue to materially affect the functioning of the federal courts, and the Chief Judge of this district has entered an order finding that "felony sentencings under Rule 32 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure . . . cannot be conducted in person without seriously jeopardizing public health and safety," and authorizing such proceedings to be conducted by "video teleconferencing, or telephone conferencing if video conferencing is not reasonably available . . . with the consent of the defendant . . . after consultation with counsel and upon a finding by the presiding judge that the proceeding cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interests of justice." *In re Coronavirus/Covid-19 Pandemic*, 20 Misc. 176, ECF No. 1 at 1, 3 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 30, 2020).

Defendant having submitted a form indicating that he consents to sentencing being conducted via telephone conference, ECF No. 13 at 5-6, the Court finds that this proceeding cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interests of justice because of the range of sentencing options presented to the Court, and the possibility that imposing sentence in this matter will result in Defendant's no longer being held in a New York City-area jail and in an overall reduction in the incarcerated population in this district, where the spread of COVID-19 presents a serious risk. The Court further finds that video teleconferencing is not reasonably available. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 15002(b)(2)(A) of the CARES Act, it is ORDERED that the sentencing shall proceed by telephone conference.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 19, 2020

New York, New York

ANALISA TORRES United States District Judge